

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. A card destruction system comprising:  
2           a reader that is configured to read identification information from the card;  
3           a controller that is coupled to the reader, wherein the controller is configured  
4 to receive the identification information and to determine whether the card is to be destroyed;  
5           a delivery sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card is delivered  
6 to a card destruction device;  
7           wherein the controller is further configured to produce a record of the  
8 destruction based on a signal from the sensor.
  
- 1           2. A system as in claim 1, further comprising a moving system to move  
2 the card through the reader and to the card destruction device.
  
- 1           3. A system as in claim 2, wherein the moving system comprises a  
2 plurality of rollers, at least some of which are rotatable in opposite directions to move the  
3 card between the rollers.
  
- 1           4. A system as in claim 3, further comprising an AC motor that is  
2 configured to rotate certain ones of the rollers that are upstream and downstream of the  
3 reader.
  
- 1           5. A system as in claim 3, further comprising a DC motor that is  
2 configured to rotate certain ones of the rollers that are associated with the reader.
  
- 1           6. A system as in claim 2, further comprising a feeding mechanism that is  
2 configured to feed individual cards from a stack of cards to the moving system.
  
- 1           7. A system as in claim 6, wherein the feeding mechanism includes a cam  
2 that is operable based on a signal from the controller to move a card from the stack and into  
3 the moving system.
  
- 1           8. A system as in claim 3, further comprising an entry sensor that is  
2 coupled to the controller to sense when a card has entered the moving system, and an exit  
3 sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card has exited the reader.

1           9. A system as in claim 8, wherein the controller is configured to stop  
2 rotation of at least some of the rollers if the card reaches the exit sensor and the determination  
3 as to whether the card is to be destroyed has not been made.

1           10. A system as in claim 2, further comprising a switch disposed along the  
2 moving system downstream of the reader to direct movement of the card to the destruction  
3 device or to a holding location depending on the determination from the controller.

1           11. A system as in claim 1, wherein the record produced by the controller  
2 includes the identification information, a date and time of destruction, and operator  
3 information.

1           12. A card destruction system comprising:  
2           a reader that is configured to read identification information from the card;  
3           a controller that is coupled to the reader, wherein the controller is configured  
to receive the identification information and to determine whether the card is to be destroyed;  
4           a card destruction device that is configured to receive and destroy cards;  
5           a delivery sensor coupled to the controller to sense when the card is delivered  
to a card destruction device;  
6           wherein the controller is further configured to produce a record of the  
7 destruction based on a signal from the sensor.

1           13. A system as in claim 12, wherein the card destruction device comprises  
2 a shredder.

1           14. A method for destroying cards, the method comprising:  
2           reading identification information from a card using a reader;  
3           determining with a controller whether the card is to be destroyed based on the  
4 identification information;  
5           sending the card to a destruction device if the controller determines that the  
6 card is to be destroyed; and  
7           sensing delivery of the card to the card destruction device with a delivery  
8 sensor and sending the sensed information to the controller to produce a record of the  
9 destruction.

1           15. A method as in claim 14, further comprising moving the card through  
2 the reader and to the destruction device with a moving system.

1           16. A method as in claim 15, wherein the moving system comprises  
2 rollers, and further comprising moving the rollers in opposite directions to move the card.

1           17. A method as in claim 14, further comprising feeding the card to the  
2 moving system from a stack of cards that are held in a bin.

1           18. A method as in claim 14, wherein the destruction record includes the  
2 identification information, a date and time of destruction, and operator information.

1           19. A method as in claim 14, wherein the reading step comprises reading  
2 the identification information from a magnetic stripe on the card.